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U.S. Army: Unit Records,  
Tenth Tank Battalion, 1943-1945

1,560 pages (approximate)  
Boxes 162-164b

On September 20, 1943, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tank Battalion of the 34<sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment was re-designated as the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion and attached to the 5<sup>th</sup> Armored Division. The Battalion spent the remainder of that year training in the United States at Pine Camp, New York, being transferred to Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, Pennsylvania, on December 8. Arriving in England on February 24, 1944, the next five months were spent training and outfitting in preparation for combat action in France. The Battalion arrived in France on July 27 and became a part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army on August 1. Through August and September the Battalion participated in the advance through France and attacked the Siegfried Line on the Our River. These months saw the first serious casualties inflicted on the Battalion. Through October the Battalion was pulled back for rest and reinforcements in Moderscheid. For November and December the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion was attached to the First Army, V Corps, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, for the purpose of advancing through the Hurtgen Forest near Kleinhau. During the German counteroffensive, the Battalion took up defensive positions around Rotgen and Eupen but saw little action, finally being returned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Armored Division on December 24. The Battalion participated in the advance through Germany during the first months of 1945, then was placed on occupation duty through the summer months. On August 19, the first orders for movement back to the United States were received. The majority of the Battalion reached port in Boston on October 8, 1945.

The records of the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion cover the period from September 1943 to October 1945. There is extensive and consistent documentation of operations during the latter half of 1944 and the first half of 1945, which is when most of the combat for the Battalion took place. Periodic reports, overlays, maps, casualty lists, and daily journal records give a detailed history of this unit's activities in Europe. The material has been arranged into six subseries according to the classification scheme of the Departmental Records Branch.

The first folder contains a detailed monthly history of the Battalion from its inception to the end of 1944. This history describes each engagement and movement, as well as lists for soldiers killed, wounded, and missing in action for each month. The S-1 file consists of a monthly and daily journal from August 1944 to May 1945. Similarly, the S-2 file contains journals from August 1944 to August 1945, as well as Intelligence summaries, after action reports, and a surrender announcement for May 1945. The largest amount of information for the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion is located in the S-3 file. This file holds journals from August 1944 to October 1945, detailing every operation and campaign the Battalion took part in during this time. Complete with after action reports and attached overlays, the S-3 file gives both a visual and textual

account of the Battalion's activities. Printed maps are also included in separate folders. The S-4 file contains journals and logistical reports from August 1944 to July 1945. The Staff Section contains a detailed journal kept by the Battalion from August 1944 to May 1945, referred to as a Consolidated Vehicle Record, which records the quantity and type of vehicles passing through Battalion Maintenance. Most of the information for the 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion can be found in the S-2 and S-3 files, along with both the attached and independent overlays.

## CHRONOLOGY

### 10<sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion

September 20, 1943	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tank Battalion, 34 <sup>th</sup> Armored Regiment is re-designated the 10 <sup>th</sup> Tank Battalion and assigned to the 5 <sup>th</sup> Armored Division.
September-December, 1943	The Battalion trains in the United States.
February 24, 1944	The Battalion arrives by ship in England.
February-July, 1944	The Battalion spends its time training for deployment in France.
July 27, 1944	Arrival of the Battalion in France.
August-September, 1944	Assigned to the Third Army, the Battalion participates in campaign through France, reaching the Siegfried Line.
October 1944	The Battalion is rested and re-outfitted in Moderscheid.
November-December, 1944	Attached to First Army, the Battalion moves through the Hurtgen Forest.
December 1944	The Battalion takes up defensive positions near Rotgen and Eupen in reaction to the German counteroffensive.
December 24, 1944	The Battalion is re-assigned to the 5 <sup>th</sup> Armored Division.
January-April, 1945	The Battalion participates in the campaigns through Germany.
May-October, 1945	The Battalion is placed on occupation duty in Germany.
October 8, 1945	The Battalion reaches port in Boston and is deactivated.

## DESCRIPTION OF SUBSERIES

<u>Box Nos.</u>	<u>Subseries</u>
162	<p>I. GENERAL HISTORICAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORTS. 1943-1944. 1 folder.</p> <p>A monthly history of the Battalion, including personnel killed, wounded, and missing in action. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
162	<p>II. S-1 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 5 folders.</p> <p>S-1 Personnel reports and journals, detailing unit strength. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
162	<p>III. S-2 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 6 folders.</p> <p>Intelligence summaries and journals concerning enemy activity and order of battle, psychological operations, and counter-intelligence. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
163- 164a	<p>IV. S-3 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 17 folders.</p> <p>Daily journals covering the operations and movements of the Battalion; Periodic Reports; After action reports; Field Orders; maps and overlays. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
164b	<p>V. S-4 REPORTS. 1944-1945. 2 folders.</p> <p>Route Delivery Lists; Periodic Reports; Daily logistics journal. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>
164b	<p>VI. STAFF SECTION REPORTS. 1944-1945. 4 folders.</p> <p>Field Orders; Periodic Reports; Consolidated Vehicle Record for Battalion Maintenance. Arranged according to the DRB classification scheme and chronologically thereunder.</p>

## CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
162	<p>SUBSERIES I: GENERAL HISTORICAL AND OPERATIONAL REPORTS</p> <p>Monthly unit history, casualty list by month      September 1943-December 1944</p> <p>SUBSERIES II: S-1 REPORTS</p> <p>S-1 Personnel Reports      October- November 1944</p> <p>S-1 Personnel Reports      December 1944- January 1945</p> <p>S-1 Personnel Reports      April- May 1945</p> <p>S-1 Monthly Journal, Periodic Journal      August 1944- May 1945</p> <p>Awards, Movement Orders      August- November 1944, 19 August 1945</p> <p>SUBSERIES III: S-2 REPORTS</p> <p>S-2 After Action Reports, Journal      August- September 1944</p> <p>S-2 Journal      August- September 1944</p> <p>S-2 Journal      October- November 1944</p> <p>S-2 Journal      December 1944- January 1945</p> <p>S-2 Journal      February, April 1945</p> <p>S-2 Journal      May- August 1945</p>
163	<p>SUBSERIES IV: S-3 REPORTS</p> <p>S-3 After Action Reports      August- December 1944</p> <p>S-3 After Action Reports      1945</p> <p>S-3 Periodic Reports      November 1944 (1)</p> <p>S-3 Periodic Reports      November 1944 (2)</p>

	S-3 Periodic Reports	November 1944- September 1945
163	S-3 Journal	August- November 1944
	S-3 Journal	December 1944
	S-3 Journal	January- April 1945
	S-3 Journal	April- October 1945
	Overlays	September 1944- September 1945
	Overlays	Not dated, c. 1944- 1945
164a	Maps, France & Belgium	
	Maps, Germany	
	Maps, Germany & Central Europe	
	Unaltered maps, Europe	
	Field Orders	November 1944- April 1945
	Frag Orders	November 1944- May 1945
	Letters of Instruction, Orders, Memoranda	February- August 1945
164b	SUBSERIES V: S-4 REPORTS	
	Route Delivery List	August- November 1944, May 1945
	S-4 Journal	December 1944- July 1945
	SUBSERIES VI: STAFF SECTION REPORTS	
	Field Orders, Periodic Reports	August- November 1944
	Consolidated Vehicle Record	November- December 1944
	Consolidated Vehicle Record	January- February 1945
	Consolidated Vehicle Record	April- May 1945